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WESTERN INFORMATION OFFICE: San Francisco, Calif.

Technical information: (415) 625-2270 BLSinfoSF@bls.gov www.bls.gov/regions/west

Media contact: (415) 625-2270

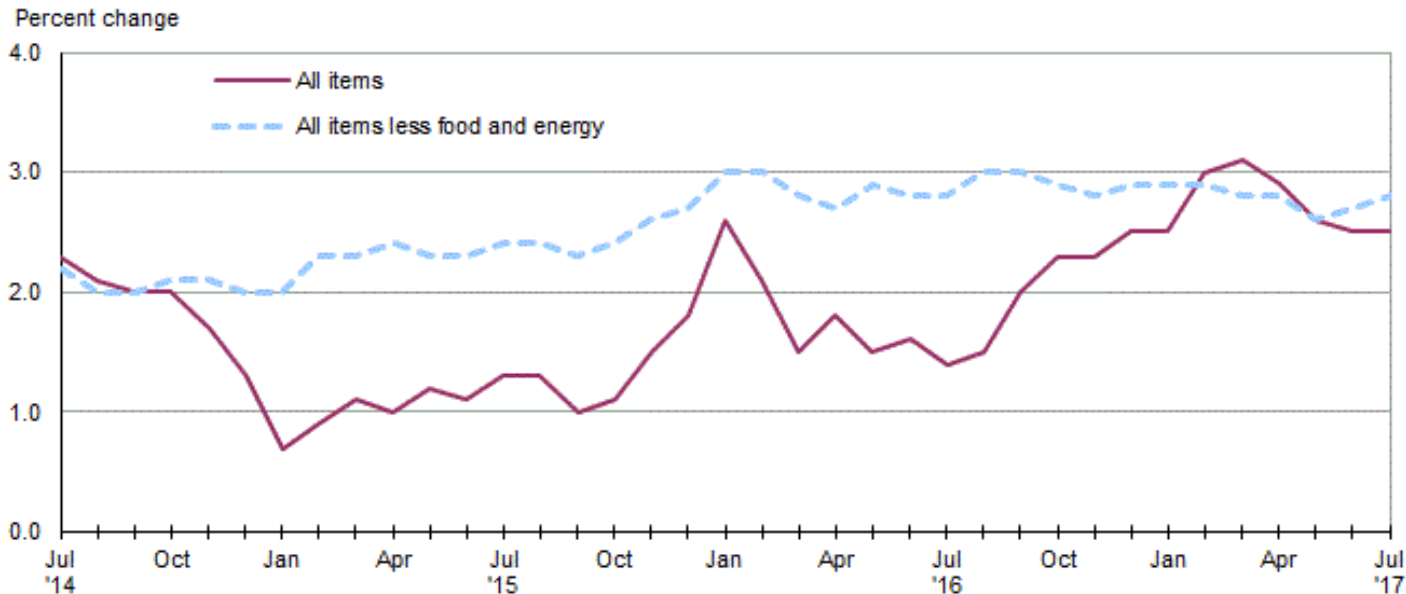
Consumer Price Index, West Region — July 2017

Area prices were up 0.1 percent over the past month, up 2.5 percent from a year ago

Prices in the West Region, as measured by the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), edged up 0.1 percent in July, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. (See [table A.](#)) The July increase was influenced by higher prices for shelter and medical care. (Data in this report are not seasonally adjusted. Accordingly, month-to-month changes may reflect seasonal influences.)

Over the last 12 months, the CPI-U rose 2.5 percent. (See [chart 1](#) and [table A.](#)) Energy prices rose 2.2 percent, largely the result of an increase in the price of gasoline. The index for all items less food and energy advanced 2.8 percent over the year. (See [table 1.](#))

Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in CPI-U, West region, July 2014–July 2017



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Food

Food prices increased 0.3 percent for the month of July. (See [table 1.](#)) Prices for food at home rose 0.5 percent, and prices for food away from home increased 0.2 percent for the same period.

Over the year, food prices advanced 1.4 percent. Prices for food away from home increased 3.0 percent since a year ago, and prices for food at home increased 0.3 percent.

Energy

The energy index decreased 1.7 percent over the month. The decrease was mainly due to lower prices for gasoline (-3.1 percent). Prices for natural gas service declined 1.3 percent, but prices for electricity inched up 0.2 percent for the same period.

Energy prices rose 2.2 percent over the year, largely due to higher prices for gasoline (2.6 percent). Prices paid for natural gas service increased 2.0 percent, and prices for electricity increased 1.6 percent during the past year.

All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy inched up 0.2 percent in July. Higher prices for shelter (0.5 percent) and medical care (0.5 percent) were partially offset by lower prices for new vehicles (-1.1 percent) and apparel (-0.8 percent).

Over the year, the index for all items less food and energy advanced 2.8 percent. Components contributing to the increase included shelter (5.0 percent), other goods and services (4.6 percent), and medical care (2.1 percent). Partly offsetting the increases were price declines in education and communication (-1.3 percent) and new and used motor vehicles (-1.9 percent).

Table A. West Region CPI-U monthly and annual percent changes (not seasonally adjusted)

Month	2012		2013		2014		2015		2016		2017	
	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual
January.....	0.4	2.6	0.3	1.7	0.3	1.7	-0.3	0.7	0.5	2.6	0.5	2.5
February.....	0.4	2.5	0.8	2.0	0.4	1.3	0.6	0.9	0.1	2.1	0.6	3.0
March.....	0.9	2.4	0.4	1.5	0.6	1.5	0.8	1.1	0.2	1.5	0.3	3.1
April.....	0.2	2.1	0.0	1.3	0.3	1.8	0.3	1.0	0.5	1.8	0.3	2.9
May.....	0.2	2.0	0.2	1.3	0.6	2.3	0.8	1.2	0.5	1.5	0.2	2.6
June.....	-0.2	2.0	0.1	1.5	0.1	2.3	0.0	1.1	0.2	1.6	0.0	2.5
July.....	-0.3	1.8	0.0	1.9	0.1	2.3	0.3	1.3	0.1	1.4	0.1	2.5
August.....	0.5	2.1	0.1	1.5	-0.1	2.1	-0.1	1.3	0.0	1.5		
September.....	0.5	2.2	0.2	1.3	0.1	2.0	-0.2	1.0	0.3	2.0		
October.....	0.4	2.5	-0.1	0.9	-0.1	2.0	0.0	1.1	0.3	2.3		
November.....	-0.7	1.9	-0.4	1.3	-0.6	1.7	-0.2	1.5	-0.2	2.3		
December.....	-0.5	1.7	0.0	1.8	-0.5	1.3	-0.1	1.8	0.0	2.5		

The August 2017 Consumer Price Index for the West Region is scheduled to be released September 14, 2017.

Technical Note

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is a measure of the average change in prices over time in a fixed market basket of goods and services. The Bureau of Labor Statistics publishes CPIs for two population groups: (1) a CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) which covers approximately 89 percent of the total population and (2) a CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) which covers 28 percent of the total population. The CPI-U includes, in addition to wage earners and clerical workers, groups such as professional, managerial, and technical workers, the self-employed, short-term workers, the unemployed, and retirees and others not in the labor force.

The CPI is based on prices of food, clothing, shelter, and fuels, transportation fares, charges for doctors' and dentists' services, drugs, and the other goods and services that people buy for day-to-day living. Each month, prices are collected in 87 urban areas across the country from about 6,000 housing units and approximately 24,000 retail establishments--department stores, supermarkets, hospitals, filling stations, and other types of stores and service establishments. All taxes directly associated with the purchase and use of items are included in the index.

The index measures price changes from a designated reference date (1982-84) that equals 100.0. An increase of 16.5 percent, for example, is shown as 116.5. This change can also be expressed in dollars as follows: the price of a base period "market basket" of goods and services in the CPI has risen from \$10 in 1982-84 to \$11.65. For further details see the CPI home page on the Internet at www.bls.gov/cpi and the BLS Handbook of Methods, Chapter 17, The Consumer Price Index, available on the Internet at www.bls.gov/opub/hom/homch17_a.htm.

In calculating the index, price changes for the various items in each location are averaged together with weights that represent their importance in the spending of the appropriate population group. Local data are then combined to obtain a U.S. city average. Because the sample size of a local area is smaller, the local area index is subject to substantially more sampling and other measurement error than the national index. In addition, local indexes are not adjusted for seasonal influences. As a result, local area indexes show greater volatility than the national index, although their long-term trends are quite similar. **NOTE: Area indexes do not measure differences in the level of prices between cities; they only measure the average change in prices for each area since the base period.**

The West Region covered in this release is comprised of the following thirteen states: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.

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Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods West (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	May 2017	Jun. 2017	Jul. 2017	Jul. 2016	May 2017	Jun. 2017
Expenditure category						
All Items.....	254.380	254.469	254.708	2.5	0.1	0.1
All items (December 1977=100).....	411.191	411.335	411.722			
Food and beverages	255.017	254.351	255.163	1.5	0.1	0.3
Food	254.852	254.220	255.101	1.4	0.1	0.3
Food at home	246.228	244.962	246.141	0.3	0.0	0.5
Food away from home.....	265.849	266.125	266.577	3.0	0.3	0.2
Alcoholic beverages	253.890	252.768	252.643	2.3	-0.5	0.0
Housing	275.281	275.972	277.110	4.2	0.7	0.4
Shelter	314.833	315.895	317.460	5.0	0.8	0.5
Rent of primary residence(1).....	331.457	332.809	334.220	5.4	0.8	0.4
Owners' equiv. rent of residences(1)(2).....	330.128	331.530	333.119	5.1	0.9	0.5
Owners' equiv. rent of primary residence(1)(2).....	330.140	331.535	333.123	5.1	0.9	0.5
Fuels and utilities.....	296.865	296.793	296.753	2.6	0.0	0.0
Household energy	257.057	256.940	256.581	1.7	-0.2	-0.1
Energy services(1)	259.321	259.358	259.008	1.7	-0.1	-0.1
Electricity(1).....	286.949	286.873	287.553	1.6	0.2	0.2
Utility (piped) gas service(1).....	209.824	210.130	207.298	2.0	-1.2	-1.3
Household furnishings and operations.....	128.144	127.865	128.039	-0.8	-0.1	0.1
Apparel	118.822	117.509	116.565	0.0	-1.9	-0.8
Transportation	206.275	206.034	203.452	1.2	-1.4	-1.3
Private transportation	199.955	199.747	197.903	1.5	-1.0	-0.9
New and used motor vehicles(3).....	101.160	100.686	100.182	-1.9	-1.0	-0.5
New vehicles	149.403	147.884	146.187	-1.4	-2.2	-1.1
New cars and trucks(3)(4).....	103.770	102.721	101.537	-1.4	-2.2	-1.2
New cars(4).....	146.352	145.596	143.573	-1.6	-1.9	-1.4
Used cars and trucks.....	135.515	134.856	134.446	-3.5	-0.8	-0.3
Motor fuel	226.143	224.767	217.894	2.7	-3.6	-3.1
Gasoline (all types).....	225.360	223.980	217.074	2.6	-3.7	-3.1
Gasoline, unleaded regular(4).....	222.626	221.188	214.277	2.6	-3.8	-3.1
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade(4)(5).....	215.755	214.940	207.764	2.7	-3.7	-3.3
Gasoline, unleaded premium(4).....	222.031	220.984	214.785	2.9	-3.3	-2.8
Medical Care	476.778	476.913	479.489	2.1	0.6	0.5
Medical care commodities.....	367.326	370.456	373.433	5.3	1.7	0.8
Medical care services.....	511.291	510.299	512.688	1.2	0.3	0.5
Professional services	350.937	347.039	347.865	-0.3	-0.9	0.2
Recreation(3).....	112.904	112.582	112.620	0.5	-0.3	0.0
Education and communication(3).....	135.176	135.408	135.565	-1.3	0.3	0.1
Other goods and services	423.336	425.120	427.393	4.6	1.0	0.5
Commodity and Service Group						
All Items.....	254.380	254.469	254.708	2.5	0.1	0.1
Commodities	181.017	180.412	179.962	0.8	-0.6	-0.2
Commodities less food & beverages.....	144.202	143.647	142.725	0.4	-1.0	-0.6
Nondurables less food & beverages	184.380	183.584	182.159	2.0	-1.2	-0.8
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel	230.527	230.041	228.276	2.6	-1.0	-0.8
Durables	107.527	107.183	106.695	-1.7	-0.8	-0.5
Services.....	322.266	323.025	323.926	3.5	0.5	0.3
Rent of shelter(2).....	335.141	336.296	337.961	5.1	0.8	0.5
Transportation services	302.509	304.937	302.777	3.5	0.1	-0.7

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods West (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted) - Continued

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	May 2017	Jun. 2017	Jul. 2017	Jul. 2016	May 2017	Jun. 2017
Other services	342.318	342.113	342.305	0.2	0.0	0.1
Special aggregate indexes:						
All items less medical care	244.210	244.297	244.432	2.6	0.1	0.1
All items less food	254.479	254.679	254.819	2.7	0.1	0.1
All items less shelter.....	230.895	230.569	230.243	1.1	-0.3	-0.1
Commodities less food	148.284	147.709	146.801	0.5	-1.0	-0.6
Nondurables	219.731	218.986	218.589	1.7	-0.5	-0.2
Nondurables less food.....	189.503	188.683	187.323	2.0	-1.2	-0.7
Nondurables less food and apparel.....	232.459	231.916	230.300	2.6	-0.9	-0.7
Services less rent of shelter(2).....	342.055	342.377	342.371	1.5	0.1	0.0
Services less medical care services.....	309.065	309.934	310.737	3.7	0.5	0.3
Energy	242.540	241.710	237.666	2.2	-2.0	-1.7
All items less energy	257.350	257.508	258.070	2.6	0.3	0.2
All items less food and energy	258.560	258.853	259.362	2.8	0.3	0.2
Commodities less food and energy commodities	140.045	139.573	139.360	0.1	-0.5	-0.2
Energy commodities.....	230.557	229.064	222.186	2.7	-3.6	-3.0
Services less energy services	327.101	327.907	328.889	3.6	0.5	0.3

Footnotes(1) This index series was calculated using a Laspeyres estimator. All other item stratum index series were calculated using a geometric means estimator.

(2) Index is on a December 1982=100 base.

(3) Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.

(4) Special index based on a substantially smaller sample.

(5) Indexes on a December 1993=100 base.

Regions defined as the four Census regions. West includes Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.

NOTE: Index applies to a month as a whole, not to any specific date. Data not seasonally adjusted.